

## FAQs

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# East End BESS

### General

#### 1. Who is TE H2?

TE H2 is a partnership between TotalEnergies and EREN Groupe (EREN) dedicated to developing large-scale renewable energy projects, with a key focus on delivering affordable and reliable energy with fewer emissions. Our goal is to decarbonise the energy sector and achieve net zero with society by 2050, recognising the pivotal role in which competitive energy helps to create a sustainable economy.

#### 2. What is a BESS?

BESS stands for Battery Energy Storage System, which is the battery technology that captures and holds energy, enabling it to be released as needed later.

#### 3. What is the East End BESS?

The East End BESS will be a standalone energy storage system with a capacity of 500 MW / 4 hour that will assist with managing energy flow across the electricity grid, reduce electricity price volatility and enhance grid reliability, whilst delivering affordable and reliable energy with fewer emissions.

#### 4. What will the East End BESS look like?

The East End BESS will primarily consist of standardised units, each resembling a 6-metre-long and 3-metre-wide shipping container, painted in neutral colours to blend with the landscape. From a distance, the BESS will appear as a low-profile installation with rows of these container structures,

arranged in an organised grid. The site will also include a high-voltage substation, which is crucial for stepping up the electricity voltage to transmission levels for connection to the grid, and a small control building and essential electrical infrastructure. Security fencing will delineate the site. The East End BESS will be a well-maintained, purpose-built facility, with components designed to be robust and functional.

#### 5. Where is the proposed project located?

The East End BESS is located on cleared farmland primarily used for grazing purposes approximately 25km southwest of Gladstone, Queensland. Situated within the Gladstone Regional Council LGA, the ecological condition is described as moderate to low due to historical land clearing and grazing, with notable disturbance around water sources and cattle yards. The site is also strategically positioned adjacent to existing overhead powerlines, approximately 13 km from Mount Larcom, 25 km from Calliope, and 31 km from central Gladstone. The nearest neighbour is over 5km away from the project site.

#### 6. Why are you building the East End BESS?

TE H2 is committed to delivering affordable and reliable energy with fewer emissions – and renewable energy coupled with energy storage is the most competitive source for new electricity production today. To assist in this objective, TE H2 is proposing to build the East End BESS to assist with grid stability and to help manage the energy flow across the network with a long-term objective to reduce



*\*The artists impression shows a visualisation of how the BESS could look. This concept design is indicative only and is subject to change based on further technical studies, engineering design, planning approvals and feedback from local communities and stakeholders.*

electricity price volatility and to contribute to lower overall cost of energy.

### **7. What is TE H2's long term role in the development?**

TE H2 is intending to be involved in the long-term ownership of the project and will undertake all aspects of the project development and approvals, including extensive community engagement, construction and operation. As the potential long term owner operator of the project, TE H2 sees itself being part of the local community for over 30 years and values genuine and long-lasting community engagement and relationships.

### **8. What are the planning and environmental approvals required for the East End BESS project?**

TE H2 submitted a planning application with the local Council in October 2025. As a result of the new State Code 27 introduced in December 2025, TE H2 will re-submit approval documentation to the Queensland State Assessment and Referral Agency (SARA).

TE H2 will also refer the project to the Federal Government for approval under the Environmental Protection & Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act. As the final design and construction for the East End BESS is refined, further permits and secondary approvals may be required. TE H2 will keep the local

community, landowners, neighbours, and interested stakeholders updated as the project progresses through approvals.

### **9. What studies or assessments have been undertaken?**

TE H2 has undertaken extensive field and environmental studies on the property by qualified third-party personnel involving ecologists, cultural heritage experts and traditional owners, and geotechnical specialists. Studies and assessments to date involve:

- Biodiversity, flora and fauna surveys
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
- Landscape and visual amenity
- Topographical and geotechnical surveys
- Surface water and groundwater
- Transport assessments

### **10. How will you protect culturally or historically significant areas?**

TE H2 team has undertaken a number of technical and site assessments to understand the culturally and historically significant areas within the project area. No cultural or historic sites have been identified

within the project footprint and TE H2 has also been engaging directly with the Traditional Owners (Port Curtis Coral Coast Group) to undertake more targeted surveys on the site and to agree on a Cultural Heritage Management Plan to address any items or areas of significance discovered during construction.

### **11. What are the environmental impacts?**

The East End BESS project is not considered to have a high ecological impact, and the site and access has been carefully chosen to align with the findings from environmental surveys to avoid any significant impacts on threatened or State Significant habitats and is anticipated not to be a controlled action under the EPBC Act.

However, construction of any development will carry some level of impacts and East End BESS is expected to generate impacts during construction such as visual, noise and traffic. These impacts will be mitigated and outstanding impacts managed through the Environmental Construction Management Plan and Environmental Operation Management Plan.

### **12. How long will it take to build the East End BESS?**

Construction of the East End BESS is anticipated to take approximately 18 months, commencing after all necessary approvals and the final investment decision are secured. At this stage, construction is anticipated to commence in late 2027. Construction will involve initial civil works for roads and hardstands (approximately 4 months), followed by the delivery and construction of the plant over the remaining months and final energisation and commissioning activities.

### **13. How long will the BESS operate for?**

The operational life of a BESS is expected to be up to 30 years once fully commissioned.

### **14. What happens at the end of the East End BESS operational life?**

At the end of the BESS operational life cycle, the East End BESS project will either be re-energised or the site will be decommissioned. Any re-energisation may require separate planning approvals and

assessments for latest technology. TE H2 will work closely with the landowners and local community to ensure early and ongoing engagement on any decommissioning or re-energisation plans well in advance. TE H2 will maximise opportunities for recycling of any plant once decommissioned and technology is continuing to improve the extend of material that can be recycled for batteries.

### **15. How many people will the East End BESS employ?**

TE H2 aims to maximise benefits to the local economy by hiring local people and local suppliers where possible in its projects, as they know the land and have the skills coupled with an enthusiasm to get the job done. The East End BESS project is estimated to generate 150-200 local jobs during construction, and 6-10 local jobs during the up to 30 years of operation. The proposed project will not only create direct employment opportunities during construction, but also through increased demand for local products, materials and services.

To submit your interested in providing goods or services, or in direct employment, visit the East End BESS website.

### **16. How will you manage fire risk?**

TE H2 will ensure that all battery systems used in the East End BESS meet relevant Australian and international safety standards and have undergone rigorous testing to minimise the risk of fire starting and spreading. The battery containers include built-in fire risk mitigation features, such as thermal insulation, internal sensors, and fire-resistant construction. In the unlikely event of a fire within a unit, the system is designed to contain the fire within that unit and allow it to safely burn out without spreading to neighbouring containers. The broader BESS site design includes safety measures such as minimum setbacks between containers and firebreaks along the site boundary to prevent fire from reaching adjacent properties. Water tanks and firefighting equipment will also be installed, to provide protection in the event of a bushfire approaching the site, in line with local fire authority requirements.

For more information, view the 'Managing Fire Risk' factsheet.

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### 17. Will there be electromagnetic radiation from the BESS?

Electric Magnetic Fields (EMF) can be found near all electrical equipment – even in very low levels near your microwave or toaster. The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) found no scientific evidence of harmful health effects from low level EMF exposure. There are no neighbouring properties within a 5km radius of the East End BESS.

### 18. Will there be any noise impacts during operation?

As a part of the approvals process, TE H2 has undertaken a detailed noise assessment to properly understand any noise impacts from the East End BESS. The major source of noise is from the cooling / air-conditioning units in the BESS containers. The East End BESS will be located away from homes, with no neighbouring homes within 5km a radius, and is 2km from the nearest road.

### 19. Will there be a community benefits program?

TE H2 will have a Community Benefit Agreement with Gladstone Regional Council as a part of the East End BESS project.

For more information, view the 'Community Benefits' factsheet.

### 20. How will you engage with the local community?

TE H2 is committed to engaging meaningfully with the communities that we are proposing to build the East End BESS within. We will work closely with landowners, neighbours, community members, advocacy groups, and local council during all stages of the project. We are committed to providing timely and accurate information, listening to your feedback and explaining how it is being considered, and holding regular drop-in sessions in the community.

We will also provide multiple avenues for feedback including; digital engagement, in-person engagement and contact numbers/ email addresses.

TE H2 will share information through pop-ups, drop-in sessions and one-on-one sessions with interested stakeholders and community members. If you are interested in learning more about the project and

provide input, please contact TE H2 on **1800 975 049** or **[eastendbess@te-h2.com](mailto:eastendbess@te-h2.com)**

### 21. How can I stay up to date on the project?

TE H2 will provide a range of avenues for people to stay up to date on the East End BESS project. These include:

- East End BESS website
- Phone calls, emails and meetings with landowners, neighbours and directly impacted stakeholders
- Dedicated 1800 number
- Newsletters
- Factsheets
- Construction updates
- Meetings with key stakeholders, local Council, government agencies and community interest groups.

If you would like to stay up to date on engagement opportunities, sign up for our e-news at **[eastendbess.com.au](http://eastendbess.com.au)**